

Re Cellular Number Portability: The alledged costs to the providers are submitted by the same parties who stand to benefit from the proposed changes. The figures submitted are contaminated by self-service. As a business owner, I am well aware of the latitude available to a business manager when quoting "costs" in order to persuade an argument. Even if the figures are correct (which I submit they are not) in terms of hard costs for time and materials, they are all ultimately borne by the customer. Any discussion, therefore, based on efficiency of economies to the consumer must take into account all collective consumer costs associated with the change and the consumer's preference as a purchaser in this situation. I very much prefer the long term potential advantages of not constructing further impediments to portability, hence competition among providers. I cannot be convinced by a self-serving provider that I am better served by constructing greater hurdles to competition. I read that the entire system is increasingly strapped for number allocations and here we have a provider advocating ways of consuming yet more numbers alledgedly in the name of economy. The flagrant abuse of facts and terminology could be comical but for the prospect that persons in power to grant their suggestions may actually pay them heed.